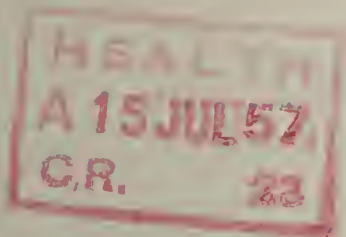


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A N N U A L                      R E P O R T  
-:-:-:-:-

ON            THE

HEALTH AND SANITARY CONDITIONS

OF            THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF LYMM  
-:-:-:-:-

BY

A. T. BURN, T.D., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
-:-:-:-:-





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One of the great advances in medical knowledge has been made available in the district during the year - I refer to the provision of vaccination against poliomyelitis. Unfortunately only a few children could be protected but more adequate supplies should be available soon. It is regrettable that the first cases of acute poliomyelitis to occur in the district since the war should have been so severe. Both the cases were accompanied by severe paralysis.

Since commencing the preparation of this report, I have been appointed to a post in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and I should like to take this opportunity of thanking most sincerely, Mr. Sucksmith, your Public Health Inspector, and my other colleagues for their very great help during the years I have been Medical Officer of Health.

I would also like to say how much I have appreciated the interest shown in the work of the Health Department by many present and past members of the Council and to thank you for your support.

I am,  
Your obedient servant,

A. TELFORD BURN,

Medical Officer of Health.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Area . . . . .  | 4,242 acres |
| Population (Registrar General estimate mid 1956)                  | 6,770       |
| Number of inhabited houses . . . . .                              | 2,259       |
| Size of household (average number of persons per house) . . . . . | 2.99        |
| Rateable Value of District . . . . .                              | £58,243     |
| Value of a penny rate . . . . .                                   | £228        |

Lymm is a pleasant residential and agricultural district situated on the south bank of the Manchester Ship Canal about 4 miles east of Warrington. The only heavy industries are concrete works and salt works, and, although there is some light industry, the majority of the inhabitants are employed outside the district, mostly in Warrington or Altrincham.

Because of the agricultural nature of the district there are plenty of open spaces, including two which are open to the public, namely; the Ridgway/Grundy Memorial Grounds, which were bequeathed to the Council, and the Dam. This latter is a large expanse of water, well stocked with fish and surrounded by pleasant walks, which are an attraction to people from surrounding areas as well as from the district itself. Some development of the Ridgway/Grundy Memorial Park has taken place during the year. Unfortunately vandalism and litter tend to spoil this otherwise delightful area.

## VITAL STATISTICS

### Births

| Live births                                   | Males       | Females | Total |
|---|-------------|---------|-------|
| Legitimate . . . . .                          | 53          | 59      | 112   |
| Illegitimate . . . . .                        | 4           | 2       | 6     |
| Total . . . . .                               | 57          | 61      | 118   |
| Still births (all legitimate)                 | -           | 4       | 4     |
| Live births rate per 1,000 population (crude) |             |         | 17.4  |
|   | (corrected) |         | 17.1  |
| Birth rate for England and Wales              |             |         | 15.6  |

There were 118 live births (57 males and 61 females) allocated to the Urban District during the year, an increase of 9 over last year's figures giving the highest birth rate since 1948. This at 17.4 births per 1,000 of the population is well above the national average.

Four still births occurred during the year giving a rate of 32.9 per thousand total births.

Only one child died before reaching its first birthday, equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 8.5 per thousand live births, which is a record low figure.

| <u>Deaths</u>   | Males 46 | Females 33  | Total 79 |
|---|----------|-------------|----------|
| Death rate per 1,000 population (crude)                     |          |             | 11.7     |
|   |          | (corrected) | 11.6     |
| Death rate for England and Wales                            |          |             | 11.7     |
| Infantile Mortality (deaths of infants under 1 year)        |          |             | 1        |
| Infantile Mortality rate (per 1,000 associated live births) |          |             | 8.5      |
| Maternal deaths   |          |             | Nil      |

During the year 79 residents (46 males and 33 females) died, as compared with 75 in 1955, but the increase in the population meant that there was only a slight rise in the death rate which was 11.7. This is the same as the national rate.

I have prepared a table showing the age at death and cause of death from which it will be seen that there was an even spread of male deaths from 45 years of age onwards, while nearly two thirds of the female deaths occurred at ages over 75. Heart diseases caused almost half of the male deaths. Cerebral vascular disease (strokes, cerebral haemorrhage or clot on the brain) was the cause of one out of every three female deaths, and heart disease caused the same number of deaths in women.

There were no accidental deaths of Lymm residents during the year.

BIRTH RATES, DEATHS RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES  
for the past 10 years in Lymm U.D.

|                  | 1947 | 1948 | 1949  | 1950  | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 |
|------------------|------|------|-------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Birth Rates      | 21.3 | 17.8 | 16.05 | 12.71 | 16.2 | 13.5 | 13.2 | 16.0 | 16.4 | 17.4 |
| Death Rates      | 13.5 | 11.0 | 12.15 | 13.2  | 13.4 | 10.5 | 13.2 | 15.2 | 11.4 | 11.7 |
| Inf. Mort. Rates | 61.0 | 61.9 | 9.9   | 49.0  | 29.0 | 11.5 | 11.9 | 28.0 | 9.9  | 8.5  |

| CAUSE  | CAUSE OF DEATH BY SEX AND AGE |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
|--|-------------------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|-------|
|  | Sex                           | 0 - 1 | 1 - 4 | 5 - 14 | 15-24 | 25-44 | 45-64 | 65-74 | 75 + | TOTAL |
| Pulmonary Tuberculosis                           | M<br>F                        |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 1     |      | 2     |
| Malignant Neoplasm Stomach<br>Lung &<br>Bronchus | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 1     |      | 2     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 1     | 2    | 4     |
| Breast   | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 1     |      | 2     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      | 1     |
| Other Sites                                      | M                             |       |       |        |       | 1     |       |       |      | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       | 2     |       |       |      | 2     |
| Diabetes   | M                             |       |       |        |       |       |       | 1     | 1    | 2     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      | 1     |
| Vascular Lesion of the<br>Nervous System         | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 3     | 4    | 8     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       | 2     | 9    | 11    |
| Coronary Disease                                 | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 5     | 4     |      | 13    |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       | 2     |      | 2     |
| Heart Disease with Hypertension                  | M                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       | 1    | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| Other Heart Diseases                             | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 3     |       | 4    | 7     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     | 1     | 7    | 9     |
| Other Circulatory Diseases                       | M                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       | 1    | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| Pneumonia  | M                             | 1     |       |        |       |       |       |       | 1    | 2     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       | 2    | 2     |
| Bronchitis                                       | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     |       |      | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| Hyperplasia of the Prostate                      | M                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       | 1    | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| Other Diseases                                   | M                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       | 1    | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| Suicide  | M                             |       |       |        |       |       | 1     |       |      | 1     |
|  | F                             |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      |       |
| TOTAL  | M                             | 1     | -     | -      | -     | 2     | 13    | 13    | 17   | 46    |
|  | F                             | -     | -     | -      | -     | 3     | 3     | 7     | 20   | 33    |
|  |                               |       |       |        |       |       |       |       |      | 79    |



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

There were only 11 cases of infectious disease notified during the year, but it is almost certain that more cases than this occurred.

The cases notified consists of 4 Scarlet Fever, 1 Measles, 3 Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1 Primary Pneumonia, 1 Dysentery and 1 Acute Paralytic Poliomyelitis.

This last case was one of two Lymm residents who suffered from this disease during the year. A child who had been removed to hospital suffering from another condition developed poliomyelitis soon after his admission, and it is likely that he was infected before admission. Two weeks later an adult from a different part of the district developed a very acute attack of the disease. It was not possible to find any connection between the two cases, nor to determine the source of infection of either of them. These are the only cases of poliomyelitis which have occurred in the district since the war.

## TUBERCULOSIS

Three cases of pulmonary tuberculosis occurred during the year and two persons died from the disease; a third was removed from the register as cured leaving the total number of cases on the register at 38 as at the beginning of the year.

## H O U S I N G

There were no Council Houses completed during the year, but private enterprise constructed 37 houses.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

These are provided by the Cheshire County Council, and are enumerated and described in the Appendix to this Report.

### HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION

General hospital accommodation is provided by the Warrington General Hospital and the Altrincham General Hospital,

while a few special cases are admitted to the Manchester Hospitals.

Infectious diseases are mostly accommodated at the Warrington Infectious Diseases Hospital.

#### LABORATORY SERVICES

These are provided at the Regional Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester. A collection service is available, specimens being left at the Council Offices, whence they are taken to Altrincham and picked up by the Laboratory each afternoon.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

##### WATER SUPPLY

The water which is of a hard nature contains 18 degrees of temporary hardness and 16 degrees of permanent hardness, is provided by the Waterworks which is in the ownership of the Council. There is a steady and abundant supply.

The water for the area was sampled regularly, the following samples being taken:-

|                           |   |   |
|---------------------------|---|---|
| Sulzer Pump               | - | 1 |
| Turbine Pump              | - | 4 |
| Drysdale Pump             | - | 2 |
| Tap in Higher Lane        |   |   |
| Tap at Council Offices    |   |   |
| Tap in Booths Hill Road   |   |   |
| Tap in The Dingle         |   |   |
| Tap in Bridgewater Street |   |   |

The whole of the samples proved satisfactory.

Chlorination is continued to all water as it leaves the pumps and before entering the service pipes.

##### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Owing to certain irresponsible members of the public who ill-use the service provided, the work of keeping the conveniences in a clean condition is not made easy to the detriment of the building and the disadvantage of subsequent users.

## HOUSING REPAIRS

Complaints received from householders in the area caused the service of 35 Preliminary Notices and 19 Statutory Notices. In all cases the work was completed, but unfortunately the tendency to spend money on repairs only when absolutely necessary still persists, which of course is causing a more rapid deterioration than need be.

## SCHOOLS

The sanitary condition of the schools in the district is unchanged from last year, but steps are being taken to alleviate the overcrowding by new building. Work has continued on extensions to Oughtrington Hall for the Grammar School, which will enable all the students to be concentrated in one building, leaving the old Grammar School buildings available for the use of pupils in other schools.

An open air swimming bath has been built at the Oughtrington Hall Grammar School for the use of pupils of this and other schools.

## FOOD HYGIENE

General cleanliness in handling of food and food premises continued to improve generally, and this was helped by the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, made under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, which came into force on the 1st January, 1956.

The public can play a large part in improving hygiene generally by drawing attention to malpractices at the time of purchase or reporting any dirty premises that they see, which enables action to be taken for their remedy.

## RODENT CONTROL

The refuse tip and sewage farms in the ownership of the Council are periodically inspected and treated if found to be necessary. It has not been possible to do any treatment of the sewers during the year owing to shortage of labour which has to be borrowed from the Surveyor's Department. Private dwellings are given free service for the eradication of rats and mice, whilst business premises are charged the cost of labour and materials, with a small charge added for overhead expenses.



## ICE-CREAM

During the year two more premises were registered for the sale of ice-cream. Only one of the total of 23 premises sells loose ice-cream, the remainder selling pre-packed.

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

As a result of the expansion of the built up areas of the district and the shortage of labour on the sewage farms, the overloading of the existing sewage farms at Statham and Sow Brook where the irrigation method of purification is practised, has been seriously aggravated, and unsatisfactory effluents have been reported from time to time.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

There only remains 37 houses within the District where pail closets are still in use, the remainder being on water carriage system. The bulk of the pail closets are emptied by the refuse collection department, but in some instance the householders themselves dispose of the contents of the pails.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

There is a fortnightly collection of refuse carried out by the Surveyor's Department. The refuse being dealt with by means of controlled tipping in part of the Ridgway/Grundy Memorial Park.

## MEAT INSPECTION

During the year the number of animals slaughtered in the area again decreased, the figures being as shown below:-

| <u>Beasts</u> | <u>Calves</u> | <u>Sheep</u> | <u>Pigs</u> |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| 17            | 5             | 1            | 6           |

There was a 100% inspection of all notified cases of slaughter, which resulted in detention of the undermentioned meat as being unfit for human consumption:-

|                    |     |     |     |     |   |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Beasts' Liver      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Beasts Head        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Part Beasts' Liver | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |



The detained meat and offal was collected and disposed of for conversion to fertiliser.

# OTHER FOODS

Upon examination the following foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered:-

|          |     |     |     |     |     |    |      |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| Fruit    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71 | tins |
| Milk     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | "    |
| Fish     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  | "    |
| Tomatoes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  | "    |
| Peas     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7  | "    |
| Beans    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  | "    |
| Meat     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 49 | "    |
| Bacon    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42 | lbs. |
| Cheese   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 70 | "    |
| Kidneys  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 | "    |
| Steak    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 | "    |
| Tomatoes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24 | "    |
| Sausages | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 | "    |

I am indebted to Mr. Stacey Hallard (Chief Inspector, Weights and Measures, Cheshire County Council), for the following particulars of samples taken in the District during 1956; I think the report is very satisfactory. It is as follows:-

|                    | <u>Number</u><br><u>Obtained</u> | <u>Number not up</u><br><u>to recognised standard</u><br><u>of quality</u> |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| Cream              | 1                                | .  |
| Cornflour          | 1                                | .  |
| Coconut Desiccated | 1                                | .  |
| Fish Paste         | 1                                | .  |
| Glycerine          | 1                                | .  |
| Jam                | 1                                | .  |
| Milks              | 11                               | 1  |
| Margarine          | 1                                | .  |
| Orange Squash      | 1                                | .  |
| Whisky             | 1                                | .  |
| Xmas Pudding       | 1                                | .  |
|                    | <hr/>                            | <hr/>  |
|                    | 21                               | 1  |
|                    | ====                             | ===  |

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND BUILDING  
INSPECTOR'S VISITS

|  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |      |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Water Supply                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15   |
| Drainage                                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 106  |
| Stables                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1    |
| Vans and Sheds                             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6    |
| Workshops                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2    |
| Factories                                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11   |
| Bakchouses                                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2    |
| Licensed Premises                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5    |
| Refuse Collection                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2    |
| Refuse Disposal                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 47   |
| Rats and Mice...                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 61   |
| Schools                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| Shops                                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24   |
| Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits              | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 66   |
| Visits for Purposes of Building Inspection | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 567  |
| Visits to Council Properties               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1396 |
| Houses inspected under Public Health Acts  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 161  |
| Visits paid to above houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 167  |
| Houses inspected under Housing Acts        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13   |
| Visits paid to above houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32   |
| Houses inspected for overcrowding          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1    |
| Visits paid to above houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1    |
| Filthy or Verminous Premises...            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2    |
| Visits paid to above houses                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4    |
| Miscellaneous Housing visits...            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57   |
| Inquiries in cases of Infectious Diseases  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11   |
| Visits re Disinfection                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5    |
| Butchers...                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7    |
| Grocers                                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18   |
| Food Preparing Premises                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3    |
| Restaurants                                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3    |
| Visits to Slaughterhouses                  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32   |
| Visits for Meat Inspection                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20   |
| Visits to other premises                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2    |

SALE & LYNN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman

Alderman L. Bethell.

Deputy Chairman

Councillor Mrs W. M. Phillips, M.A., J.P.

Representing the Local Health Authority (Cheshire County Council)

County Alderman G. Astbury, J.P.

County Councillor W. Cameron.

County Alderman F. D. Gee.

County Councillor Mrs K. L. M. Hughes.

County Councillor P. A. A. Pepper.

County Alderman A. Whitley.

Representing Sale Borough Council

Alderman L. Bethell.

Councillor Mrs E. Cave.

Councillor H. H. Cunliffe.

Councillor Mrs M. Dickinson, J.P.

Councillor F. S. Laughton, J.P.

Councillor E. Lee, A.M.I.E.E.

Councillor Mrs W. M. Phillips, M.A., J.P.

Councillor J. G. Steel, B.E.M.

Councillor R. M. Willan.

Councillor C. G. Woodward, D.C.M.

Representing Lynn Urban District Council

Councillor Mrs J. Palmer.

Councillor Mrs K. V. I. Horrocks.

Co-opted Members

Mr. A. Ball, J.P., F.C.A.

Mr. S. N. Duguid, J.P., B.Sc.

Miss E. Hatton.

Mrs D. King.

Miss M. L. McMurtrey.

Mrs D. A. Seagrief.

Mr. L. Steains, C.B.E., J.P.

Dr. F. Wraith.

Clerk to the Committee

Mr. Bertram Finch.

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DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE STAFF

Divisional Medical Officer

Dr. A. Telford Burn, T.D., M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Chief Clerk

Mr. W. Willson.

Clerical Staff

Mrs E. Aldhouse.

Mrs S. M. Rock.

Miss W. England.



Divisional Health Office,  
Town Hall,  
Sale.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the Local Health Authority Services in the Division during 1956.

Probably the main extension of the work during the year was the introduction of vaccination against poliomyelitis by the Ministry of Health. We were, unfortunately, not given as much information about this as we would have wished in the early stages, and were given so little time to prepare a register of children to be vaccinated that the clerical resources of the Divisional Office were severely strained. However, the vaccination programme itself was carried out very smoothly with the assistance of Dr. English, the Assistant County Medical Officer, and 233 children were protected.

The maternity and child welfare services showed a steady expansion of work, as did the Home Nursing and Home Help services. We have had one additional Health Visitor appointed at Sale and another Home Nurse in the Lymm area.

A further step in the amalgamation of the Ambulance Service with that of the Altrincham Division was taken with the setting up of a Joint Ambulance Sub-Committee reporting to the County Health Committee, which has taken over the administration of the service from the Divisional Committee. A joint control room has been established and already some economies are becoming evident, without any reduction in the efficiency of the service.

In thanking all my colleagues in the County Health Service for their great assistance and co-operation during the year, I must especially thank them for the great help and kindness they gave me during my illness in the early part of the year. I would also like to express my thanks to the members of the Voluntary Welfare Committees and of the W.V.S. who have done so much during the year.

Finally, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, I would like to thank you for all the consideration, help and co-operation you have shown to me during the year, which has made my task so much easier.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

A. TELFORD BURN.

Divisional Medical Officer.



REPORT ON THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES IN  
THE DIVISION

Care of Mothers and Young Children

(a) Mothers' Clinics

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held weekly on Wednesday afternoons at Chapel Road Welfare Centre, Sale. The clinics are conducted by Dr. H. MacMichael assisted by a Health Visitor, and the County Midwives. The student midwives in training at the Sale and Brooklands War Memorial Hospital also attend the clinics.

The clinic deals mainly with expectant mothers who have booked the County Midwives for domiciliary confinement, but in addition cases are referred by General Practitioners for blood examinations, and by some hospitals to save expectant mothers who have booked for hospital confinement making frequent long journeys during their pregnancy.

Relaxation classes have been conducted at the clinics by Mrs F. C. Norris, C.S.P. and have been well attended. Mrs Norris is having to give up this work and we have been fortunate in obtaining the services of Mrs G. Clifford to continue the classes. Much publicity has recently been given to the benefits of ante-natal exercises, and I have no doubt that as a result the attendances at these classes will increase.

One of the main objects of Local Authority ante-natal clinics has always been education of the expectant mother in the care of her own health during pregnancy and the nursing period, and in the upbringing of her baby. This work has developed at our clinics thanks to the use of visual aids, especially the epidiascope provided by the Voluntary Welfare Committee. The Health Visitor devotes much of her time at the clinics to this work, and it is very much appreciated by the mothers.

Attendances at the post-natal clinics continue to be disappointingly small.

|                    | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Total attendances</u> |
|--------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Ante-natal         | 190              | 852                      |
| Post-natal         | 3                | 4                        |
| Dental - pre-natal | 2                | 3                        |
| - nursing mothers  | 3                | 12                       |

(b) Child Welfare Clinics

The five centres in the division have been very well attended during the year. Two clinics are held each week at Chapel Road Centre, Sale, and one each at Brooks' Institute, Raglan Road and Norris Road in Sale, and at Eagle Brow, Lymm. The Chapel Road and Lymm Clinics are conducted by general practitioners, Drs L. Huddleston and J. G. Cronin and Dr. H. Sissons respectively, while Dr. B. Sloan takes the Brooks' Institute clinic and shares the attendances at Raglan Road with the Divisional Medical Officer. Dr. A. English, Assistant County Medical Officer attends the Norris Road Clinic. The doctors see all new cases, and others as may be necessary. All children attending are seen by the

Health Visitors, and on them depends in great measure the success or otherwise of the clinics. The large attendances in the division show clearly how well we are served by our Health Visitors.

Registration and other clerical work, and the weighing of children is carried out by the ladies of the Voluntary Welfare Committees, who also handle the sales of proprietary infant foods at the Chapel Road and Lymm Centres. The Divisional Committee, and the staff, are very grateful for their help and for the equipment which they have supplied for use in the clinics, especially the demonstration layettes at Lymm and apparatus for the assessment of hearing level in young children at Sale. The earlier any degree of deafness can be identified in infants the more successful are efforts to teach them lip reading and to aid them to develop normal speech. Dr. English and two of our Health Visitors have had special training in this work during the year at the Manchester University Department of Education of the Deaf, and with the equipment supplied by the Authority and the Voluntary Committee it is hoped that a very useful service will soon be developed.

The sale of proprietary infant foods at the branch centres in Sale is carried out by the Divisional Office Staff and has shown a definite increase as compared with last year.

#### Clinic Attendances

|                    | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Doctors' Consultations</u> | <u>Total Attendances</u> |             |             |
|--------------------|------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                    |                  |                               | <u>0-1</u>               | <u>1-2</u>  | <u>2-5</u>  |
| Sale - Chapel Road | 300              | 1210                          | 3938                     | 560         | 283         |
| Sale Moor          | 141              | 725                           | 1598                     | 299         | 143         |
| Raglan Road        | 130              | 736                           | 1743                     | 361         | 273         |
| Brooks' Institute  | 115              | 522                           | 1738                     | 225         | 34          |
| Lymm               | <u>131</u>       | <u>725</u>                    | <u>1665</u>              | <u>533</u>  | <u>549</u>  |
|                    | <u>817</u>       | <u>3918</u>                   | <u>10682</u>             | <u>1978</u> | <u>1282</u> |

#### Specialist Clinics (attendances by children under 5 years)

|                   | <u>New Cases</u> | <u>Total Attendances</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|--------------------------|
| Ophthalmic - Sale | 32               | 78                       |
| - Lymm            | 10               | 38                       |
| Dental            | 23               | 33                       |

#### Sale of Proprietary Welfare Foods (Sale Moor, Raglan Road and Brooks' Institute Centres)

|               |   |               |
|---------------|---|---------------|
| Stocks bought | - | £603. 17. 6.  |
| Total Sales   | - | £658. 19. 11. |

#### (c) Distribution of Ministry of Food Welfare Foods

There has been no change in the arrangements for distributing Ministry of Food Welfare Foods (National Dried Milk, Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice).

Centres are established at the Divisional Office and at the Council Offices, Lymm, the latter manned by the staff of Lymm U.D.C. In addition members of the W.V.S. attend the Norris Road and Raglan Road clinics at



Sale and at the Lymm clinic during child welfare sessions and handle the distribution at these centres and I would like to thank them for their assistance. Distribution at Brooks' Institute clinic is carried out by a member of the Divisional Office Staff. While there was a fall in the amount of National Dried Milk issued as compared with last year, there was an increase in some vitamin supplement issues, in the total items distributed and in the cash turnover.

The issues made during the year were :-

|                          |                  |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| National Dried Milk      | 17,711 tins      |
| Cod Liver Oil            | 5,579 bottles    |
| Vitamin Tablets          | 3,473 packets    |
| Orange Juice             | 49,888 bottles   |
| Total Items              | 76,651 articles  |
| Cash and stamps received | £1,853. 11. 10d. |

(d) Day Nursery

The only Day Nursery in the Division is situated in Harley Road, Sale. To ensure that this is run at the most economical figure the number of children on the register has been reduced so as to have about 30 children in attendance. Charges have been graded from two to four shillings per day according to the class of priority, although the cost per place is much in advance of this. There is a waiting list for non-priority cases, but all priority cases are granted immediate admission, even though this does increase the number on the register over the permitted maximum. This is possible because the nursery was originally a 50 place nursery and there is, therefore, no problem of overcrowding.

There was an outbreak of mumps in June and of measles during November and December, but it was not necessary to close the Nursery during the year on account of sickness.

|  |   |    |
|--|---|----|
| Number on register 1st January, 1956   | - | 37 |
| Number admitted during the year        | - | 38 |
| Number left during the year            | - | 39 |
| Number on register 31st December, 1956 | - | 36 |
| Average daily attendance               | - | 28 |

21 children were in the nursery throughout the period.

MIDWIFERY SERVICES

These are controlled by the County Medical Officer and the Divisional Committee deals only with accommodation and transport of midwives.

There are two midwives in Sale and one in Lymm who attend at domiciliary births in the Division. The Sale midwives are accompanied by students from the Part II midwifery training school at the Sale and Brooklands War Memorial Hospital as part of their District training.

The proportion of domiciliary births at Sale is only about one in six and two midwives proves adequate, but expectant mothers are having increasing difficulty in booking in to hospitals and any great increase in the number of domiciliary confinements would necessitate an increase in the establishment of midwives.

## Midwives (continued)

| <u>Cases Attended</u>   |   | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Lynn</u> |
|---|---|-------------|-------------|
| As Midwife (i.e. in sole charge)  | - | 32          | 48          |
| As Maternity Nurse (i.e. under the supervision of a medical practitioner) | - | <u>91</u>   | <u>3</u>    |
| <u>Totals</u>   | - | <u>123</u>  | <u>51</u>   |

## HEALTH VISITING

This service is also under the direct control of the County Medical Officer, but there is close co-operation between the Health Visitors and the Divisional Medical Officer.

An additional Health Visitor was appointed at Sale during the autumn, and a revision of the areas of the visitors followed. This was in part necessitated by the increased population of the Borough and in part to the extra duties falling on the staff. From being solely advisers on the care of young children they have become health advisers to the whole family, from infants to aged persons, and are often called on to visit patients on discharge from hospital. They also visit all tuberculous persons and their families, advising on the prevention of spread of the disease, and on the welfare of the patient. In this work they maintain a very close liaison with the Chest Clinic.

## HOME NURSING

As with the other nursing staff of the County the Home Nurses are directly under the control of the County Medical Officer.

During the year Nurse Cahill, who had been Home Nurse at Lynn from the inception of the service, left us and has been replaced by Nurse Kneale. The area has been extended and another nurse has been employed.

The Nurse's house at Lynn has been redecorated and refurnished on the change of staff.

|                | <u>Sale</u> | <u>Lynn</u> |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| Cases attended | 612         | 240         |
| Total visits   | 10,645      | 5,120       |

## VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

The primary object of Local Authority Health Services is the prevention of disease, and in those infectious diseases for which specific immunisation procedures are available and necessary they achieve this object by the provision of protection, either at clinics or through general practitioners. At the present time such protection is offered against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

There was one extension of the vaccination and immunisation service during the year which has received very great publicity. I refer of course to vaccination against poliomyelitis. While the incidence of this disease is not great when compared with that of diphtheria before the introduction of immunisation, the high proportion of cases left with marked residual disability has led to a great fear of the disease in the public mind. The vaccine used



is prepared in this country in a similar way to the Salk vaccine in America, and the disaster which occurred there due to insufficient sterilization of the vaccine affected the response of parents to the offer of vaccination. However, 2288 children in the appropriate age groups were registered before the closing date, and since then 133 have applied for addition to the list. The selection of children for vaccination was made by the Ministry of Health and 228 children were given two injections and 5 given one injection before the end of June. A small issue in November was sufficient to complete the vaccination of these children.

This scheme threw a great deal of extra work on the administrative staff of the Division as individual letters had to be distributed to the parents of all children between the ages of two and nine years and a separate registration card prepared for each child who accepted. Just as the scheme was getting under way I became ill, and it was thanks to the office staff that everything went so very smoothly over the publicity and recording, and I would take this opportunity of expressing my very sincere thanks to them for their efforts in this matter.

Vaccination against smallpox is accepted as desirable by most parents, and about 55% of all children under one year are known to have been protected while there is every reason to believe that many more have been vaccinated by general practitioners who have not notified the fact.

A combined prophylactic against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is now available, giving protection against all three diseases simultaneously, and is recommended to mothers bringing their children to the immunisation clinics. It is accepted by most of them in preference to separate protection. The response to the offer of this protection is not so great as it may be and in particular a falling off in the numbers receiving booster doses for continued protection has been noted.

The following table gives the number of children known to have been vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by private practitioners during the year, but it may well be that even more children have been given protection although no record is held by the department.

|                        | Smallpox    |     |                    |     | Diphtheria              |     |                     |     | Whooping<br>Cough |     |
|------------------------|-------------|-----|--------------------|-----|-------------------------|-----|---------------------|-----|-------------------|-----|
|                        | Vaccination |     | Re-<br>Vaccination |     | Primary<br>Immunisation |     | Re-<br>Immunisation |     |                   |     |
|                        | (a)         | (b) | (a)                | (b) | (a)                     | (b) | (a)                 | (b) | (a)               | (b) |
| Pre-School<br>Children | 299         | 188 | 1                  | -   | 316                     | 230 | 19                  | -   | 255               | 208 |
| School<br>Children     | 2           | 10  | -                  | 5   | 9                       | 8   | 97                  | 67  | -                 | 7   |
| Adults                 | 1           | 27  | 5                  | 53  | -                       | -   | -                   | -   | -                 | -   |
| Totals                 | 302         | 225 | 6                  | 58  | 325                     | 238 | 116                 | 67  | 255               | 215 |

- (a) At the Clinics  
(b) By Private Practitioners.



## AMBULANCE SERVICE

During the year a Joint Ambulance Sub Committee was formed with representatives of the County Health Committee, the Altrincham Divisional Health Committee and the Sale & Lymm Divisional Health Committee to be responsible for amalgamation of the two divisional ambulance services and reporting direct to the County Health Committee. A joint control room was set up at Altrincham and the integration of the services has proceeded gradually.

One of the ambulances which has been in continuous use since the service began has been sold and replaced by a sitting case ambulance, capable of taking one stretcher case or eight sitting cases. This is a very much more economical type of vehicle, and should prove of very great value in the transport of treatment cases.

Shortly before the end of the year the County Health Committee circulated a scheme for radio-control of ambulances and a joint meeting was held between representatives of the County Health Committee and the Divisional Committees, who are to consider the matter further during 1957.

In view of the partial amalgamation of the ambulance service with that at Altrincham, comparative figures cannot be given for mileage etc., but the vehicles allocated to Sale (3 ambulances, 1 sitting case ambulance and 1 sitting case car) have travelled 90,786 miles on 6,636 journeys and carrying in all 13,730 patients.

In addition, the Hospital Car Service covered a total of 5,802 miles in Lymm in carrying 651 patients.

## PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE

While most of the work in this section has been connected with tuberculosis as in past years, there is an increasing amount of after care work for elderly persons discharged from hospital after illness or injury, and for those for whom no hospital bed can be found for some weeks. These delays in admission cause a great deal of worry for all concerned and are a great strain on Home Help, Home Nursing and Health Visiting services during winter time.

So far as tuberculosis is concerned there are two main methods adopted for the prevention of spread of the disease. The first is the following up of cases to ensure that the members of the family know how to protect themselves, and that all contacts attend for X-ray and clinical examination at the Chest Clinic. The second is to provide B.C.G. vaccination, both to contacts and to school leavers. Under this scheme 72 child contacts have been vaccinated during the year, 48 at Altrincham Chest Clinic, 1 at Warrington Clinic and 23 in the Divisional Clinics. In addition the parents of 537 children aged 13 years attending County Schools in the Division were circulated offering protection for their children. About 70% accepted and 367 children were tested to see whether they required vaccination. 277 were vaccinated and the other 90 were X-rayed to determine whether they were free from disease. One acute case was found among these children, and others were kept under observation. In addition 23 Sale children were given B.C.G. soon after birth by the Medical Research Council B.C.G. Unit at St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

A register of tuberculous patients in the Division is kept in the Divisional Office with full records and a close liaison with the Chest Clinics maintained.

|   | <u>MALES</u> |                  | <u>FEMALES</u> |                  | <u>Total</u> |
|---|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|--------------|
|   | <u>Pulm.</u> | <u>Non-Pulm.</u> | <u>Pulm.</u>   | <u>Non-Pulm.</u> |              |
| <u>Sale</u>                               |              |                  |                |                  |              |
| On register 1st January, 1956             | 103          | 22               | 80             | 9                | 214          |
| Added to register                         | 29           | 4                | 20             | 5                | 58           |
| Removed from register                     | 20           | 6                | 11             | 4                | 41           |
| Remaining on register 31st December, 1956 | 112          | 20               | 89             | 10               | 231          |
| Admitted to Sanatoria during the year     | 12           | -                | 17             | 1                | 30           |
| Discharged from Sanatoria during the year | 17           | -                | 13             | -                | 30           |
| <u>Lyman</u>                              |              |                  |                |                  |              |
| On register 1st January, 1956             | 16           | 4                | 15             | 3                | 38           |
| Added to register                         | 1            | -                | 2              | -                | 3            |
| Removed from register                     | 2            | -                | 1              | -                | 3            |
| Remaining on register 31st December, 1956 | 15           | 4                | 16             | 3                | 38           |

In addition to the above services in connection with tuberculosis, nursing equipment is provided on loan for the use of patients who are sick at home, and 6 wheel chairs are also available so that crippled persons can be taken out by their relatives.

Occupational therapy has been provided for those who are housebound by reason of illness and gives some interest to these patients. Materials are provided at cost price, so that some little income can also be made by these people.

Convalescent holidays have been arranged on request from doctors of patients who have been ill at home and require a period of rest and recuperation before returning to work, and where there has been financial hardship a contribution has been made towards the cost.

#### DOMESTIC HELP

There was an increase of almost 25% in the amount of assistance given by the domestic help service, despite the difficulties of obtaining suitable women to undertake this work. 148 cases were given assistance for a total of 12,411 hours. 55 of these were maternity cases in which full time assistance was given, 58 were elderly people or chronic sick requiring a few hours service each week and the remainder were cases of sudden illness or hospital admission of mothers or similar unexpected conditions.

#### HEALTH EDUCATION

At all times the Health Visitors, and other members of the staff endeavour to teach mothers and expectant mothers, and school children on methods of preventing illness and promoting good health. Their efforts have been reinforced by the use of visual aids such as posters, exhibition materials, and slides.

Lectures have been given to organisations, and every effort made to interest people in good health.



## A P P E N D I X

### SUMMARY OF LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES IN THE SALE AND LYNN DIVISION

- Divisional Health Office - Town Hall, Sale. (SALE 2255)
- Mothers' Clinics (Sale Welfare Centre)  
Ante-natal and post-natal clinic - Each Wednesday afternoon.
- Dental Treatment - Sale Welfare Centre - By appointment.
- Infant Welfare Clinics
- Sale Chapel Road Centre - Each Tuesday & Thursday afternoon.
  - Sale Moor Centre - Each Thursday afternoon.
  - Sale Raglan Road Centre - Each Tuesday afternoon.
  - Sale Brooks' Institute Centre - Each Friday afternoon.
  - Lynn Welfare Centre - Each Tuesday afternoon.
- Specialist Clinics (Sale Welfare Centre)
- Ophthalmic - By appointment.
  - Sunlight - By appointment.
- Day Nursery, Harley Road, Sale - Matron: Mrs E. Howitt (SALE 4627)
- Midwives
- Mrs D. Lindley - 65, Derbyshire Road South, Sale. (SALE 4383)
  - Mrs I. E. Thompson - 6, Iansdowne Road, Sale. (SALE 1140)
  - Miss J. Pike. - 21, The Crescent, Lynn (LYNN 725)
- Health Visitors
- Miss H. Wingfield )
  - Miss B. Cunliffe ) Welfare Centre
  - Mrs E. Heywood ) 70, Chapel Road, Sale. (SALE 1329)
  - Mrs M. Holmes )
  - Miss J. Sidebottom )
  - Miss F. Govan - 29, Eagle Brow, Lynn. (LYNN 277)
- Home Nurses
- Mrs W. F. Raad - 107, Royton Avenue, Sale. (SALE 6135)
  - Miss L. Powell - 22, Georges Road, Sale. (SALE 7033)
  - Miss B. Kitchen - 13, Harcourt Road, Sale. (SALE 5764)
  - Miss F. E. Kneale - 26, Highfield Road, Lynn. (LYNN 116)
  - Mrs A. B. James - 61, Star Lane, Lynn. (LYNN 399)
- Vaccination and Immunisation Clinics
- Sale Welfare Centre - Each Friday morning.
- Ambulance Station
- 31/33, Chapel Road, Sale - Supervisor: Mr. J.B. Kirkby. (SALE 4215)
- Care and After-Care - Nursing requisites on application to the Divisional Health Office.
- Domestic Help - On application to the Divisional Health Office.
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